Attorney Docket No. 01-476

Serial No. 10/643,921

REMARKS

Claims 5-11 were pending in the present application. Claim 5 is canceled herein. Thus

claims 6-11 are pending. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of

the present application in view of the following remarks.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over

Yokota, U.S. Patent No. 6,587,787 B1. Claim 5 is canceled herein rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 6-11 are indicated allowable if re-written in independent form. Claims 6 and 9

are accordingly re-written in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and

intervening claims. Therefore, claims 6 and 9 are allowable. Claims 7, 8, 10 and 11, by virtue of

depending from claims 6 and 9 respectively are also allowable as indicated.

In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that this application is in condition for

allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to

patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and

credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

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